

UR schedules institute on Catholic education

ROCHESTER — The University of Rochester's Sixth Annual Institute on Catholic Education, slated for July 6-7, will examine crucial issues for Catholic schools as these institutions look to the next century.

Sponsored by the university's Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development, this year's institute is titled "Empowering the Future." The program features Dr. Elinor R. Ford, former superintendent of Catholic schools for the New York City archdiocese, and Frank X. Savage, executive director of the National Catholic Educational Association's Department of Chief Administrators of Catholic Education.

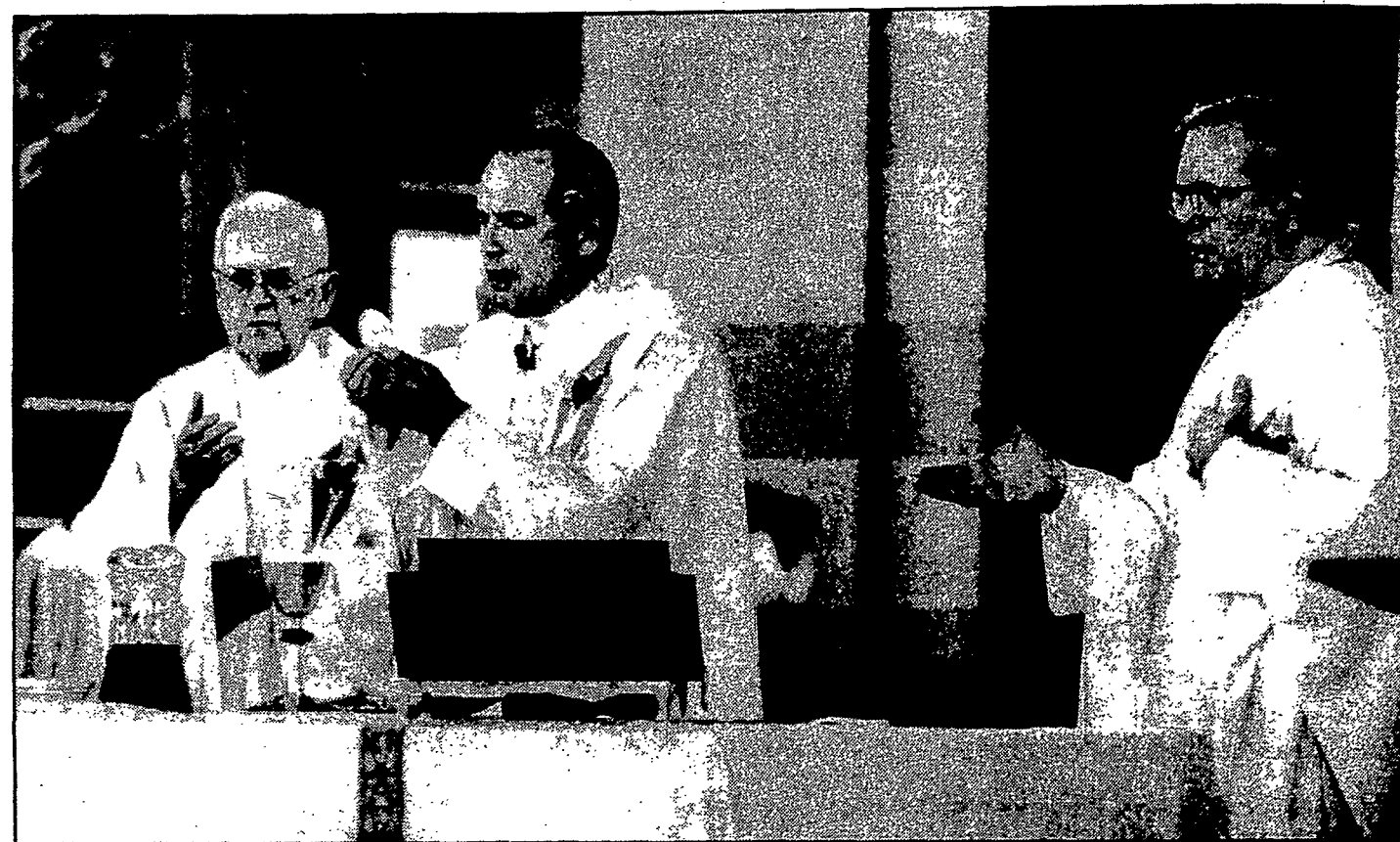
On Thursday, July 6, Ford will speak on "Dimensions of Empowering Leadership," and "Scenarios for Third Millennium Leaders." Savage will speak on "From Yesterday to Today for Tomorrow," and "Catholic Identity: Getting Back to the Basics."

On Friday, July 7, Ford will speak on "Dimensions of Leadership: Passionate Witnessing and Bonded Relationships," "Authentic Teaching" and "Creating the Next Steps."

For registration and fee information, call Sister Edwardine Weaver, RSM, at 716/275-7833 or 275-8270.

Bishops concelebrate Mass

Several hundred people attended an afternoon Mass on the feast of the Sacred Heart to congratulate Bishop James M. Moynihan, newly installed bishop of Syracuse and former pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Penfield. During the Mass, Bishop Clark presented Bishop Moynihan with a ring previously worn by the late Bishop James E. Kearney, whom Bishop Moynihan served as secretary during the 1960s.



Bishops Dennis W. Hickey (from left), Matthew H. Clark and James M. Moynihan concelebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral June 23.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Diocese fills two new positions created through Pastoral Plan

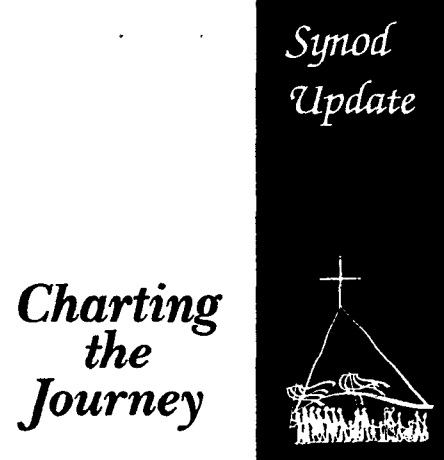
By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

ROCHESTER — The Diocese of Rochester this week continues the implementation of its synod pastoral plan by filling two positions created by the plan.

Effective July 1, 1995, Suzanne G. Schnittman will become the diocese's Consistent Life Ethic coordinator, and Karen Rinefierd will become the coordinator for Young Adult, Adult and Family Faith Formation.

A parishioner of St. Mary's Parish in Rochester, Schnittman is the president of Feminists for Life. She recently completed a stint as a visiting assistant professor at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva. She holds a doctorate in history from the University of Rochester.

As Consistent Life Ethic coordinator, Schnittman will be responsible for supporting parishes as they implement the consistent life ethic, which encompasses such life issues as abortion, war, the death penalty and euthanasia. She will



provide parishes with education and training, and help in creating networks for mutual support and information.

Meanwhile, Rinefierd has been working as a part-time consultant to the diocesan Department of Evangelization and Catechesis since 1992. She is a member of the University of Rochester's Newman Community, where she has served as director of religious education. She holds

two master's degrees — in education from the University of Rochester and in pastoral ministry from Boston College — and is a candidate for a master of divinity degree at St. Bernard's Institute.

As coordinator of Young Adult, Adult and family Faith Formation, Rinefierd will work during the next five years with parishes and the staff of the department of Evangelization and Catechesis to implement Goal 1 of the diocesan Pastoral Plan, forming Catholics in beliefs, traditions and spirituality throughout life.

Schnittman views her new position as a continuation of her education career.

"I've been teaching for a long time, and this just seemed another aspect of teaching," Schnittman remarked.

Schnittman became involved in life and social-justice issues approximately 15 years ago while a parishioner at Rochester's Blessed Sacrament Church. At that time, she began working with promoting hunger awareness, then became active with peace work and the Rochester Sanctuary Committee.

In recent years, Schnittman has been busy with Feminists for Life. The organization espouses a consistent-life view, and also seeks to counter the notion that feminism is integrally linked to abortion-rights advocacy.

"It isn't automatically a feminist thing to do to have an abortion," Schnittman observed. "Abortion is violence against women."

Initially, Schnittman said, one of her priorities will be to find out what's going on at the parish level.

She also plans to reach out to young women to present a pro-woman pro-life message; to support efforts to aid young women during and after their pregnancies; and to foster the consistent life message among people who previously had tended to focus on just one of the issues.

Rinefierd enters her new job with the advantage of having done part of it before. She ran the diocese's young adult ministry program in the early 1980s.

Although not yet in her job, Rinefierd said she already has begun working on one of the pastoral plan goals: creating adult education packets for use in parishes. The first three packets — dealing with ethics in the work place, reading Scriptures and how adults pray — will be ready for use this fall, she said.

Additional priorities will be to find out what is already going on in parishes in terms of young adult, adult and family faith formation, and to provide training and education opportunities.

One group with which she sees the need for a great deal of work is young adults.

"It's a difficult group to reach because of the diversity," Rinefierd observed. "They are wrestling with faith, not really at ease with the church in those years."

As for families, Rinefierd plans to have nationally known family catechist Kathleen Chesto return to the diocese in October. Chesto, who created the catechetical program known as F.I.R.E. — Family-Centered Intergenerational Religious Education — visited the diocese in March to present workshops.

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